

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 31, 2011
7:30 P.M.

Town Hall
Selectmen's Meeting Room

Present; Andrew M. Porter, Chairman; William McColl, Vice Chairman; Jay Marsden, Clerk and Paul D. Le Beau, Town Administrator. Andrea Minihan, Administrative Assistant was absent.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANTS:

11-32	GENERAL WARRANT	\$ 129,848.60
	CONFISCATED TRUSTS (300)	\$ 2,436.81
	PAYROLL	\$ 958,757.76
	TOTAL WARRANT	\$1,091,043.17

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID

\$ 192,632.52

TREASURE'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST

\$ 157,989.38

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MCCOLL. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. PORTER ABSTAINED.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. McColl said Boy Scout Troup 14 will be holding a pancake breakfast at St. Mary's Center Hall on Sunday, February 6th, from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Also on Sunday, February 6th, the Mount Hollis Lodge will be selling hoagies.

Mr. Marsden said that more snow is coming this week, please no overnight parking on the roads and also get your trash as close to the road as possible.

Mr. Porter said that many homes have ice dams. He said that if there is brown in the icicle, then there could be a problem, they should be clear.

Mr. Porter said that the Lions' Club will be having their annual Super Bowl brunch at the High School from 8:00 a.m. to noon on February 6th.

He also said that Holliston Educational Foundation will be having their annual Trivia Bee on March 2nd.

Comments from the audience

Elizabeth Theiler, 17 Norland Street, spoke about the tax rate. She said that Holliston has the 15th highest tax rate in the State. She said that 322 Town's rates are lower than ours. She said that with the higher cost of health insurance, she is asking that the Board of Selectmen freeze all salaries.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT BUDGET

David Nalchajian, Town Accountant, was present. Mr. Nalchajian said that he met the guideline. He said that he is not asking for any clerical staff. He said that he wanted to upgrade Munis. He said that there is a feature in the software that would require a conversion. He said that he wants to be involved in the planning stages of items that are to be ordered. He said that he would have a better understanding of where we stand financially. Mr. McColl said that if you were to get this package, would any department be able to use it? Mr. Nalchajian said that all departments could use the software. He said to purchase it, will cost \$6,000, with a fee every year after of \$1,200. He said that the program is not user friendly.

Mr. Le Beau said that they have been having monthly meetings with the Accountant, the Treasurer/Collector, School Business Manager, and the Principal Assessor.

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES BUDGET

Margaret Fitzpatrick, Director, was present. Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she met the guideline. She said that were given a gift a few years ago, and it will cover part of the staff cost for this year only. Ms. Fitzpatrick said that they were taking on a three year project, for Middle School students.

FIRE, AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUDGETS

Chief Michael Cassidy was present. Chief Cassidy said that he met the guideline. Mr. McColl said that there is a small increase in the stipend. Chief Cassidy said that they have been trying to keep up the stipend to be comparable with other Towns. He said that he was able to cut the overtime from dispatch. Mr. Marsden said that we save a lot of money by having an On-Call Fire Department.

AMBULANCE BUDGET

Chief Cassidy said that he was not able to meet the guideline for this budget. He said that the revolving account was not able to keep up with the funding due to statutory limit. Chief Cassidy said that now that they have a third ambulance they do not seem to be a busy.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUDGET

Chief Cassidy said he met the guideline. He said that the majority of this budget is the Town-wide Community Notification System.

SEASONAL FIREFIGHTER REQUEST

Chief Cassidy said that he would like to change the status of one of the Seasonal Firefighters. James McGowan has changed his availability and he is around more. Mr. Porter said that this is the appointment of the Town Administrator.

SELECTMEN'S BUDGET

Mr. Le Beau said that Liability Insurance will be going down, because of a program that we participate in. Credits are issued for training that is done. He said that the

Professional Services line will be going up. He said that account covers the independent audit, Town Counsel and the fees for the Town's membership in the Massachusetts Municipal Association. He said that there will not any changes in the staff. He said that a quarter of the part time clerical staff will come out of the Upper Town Hall Revolving Account. Mr. Porter said that the copy machine and all traffic lights are included in this budget.

MR. DOWD

Mr. Porter said that they are looking at a way to disclose employee benefits to the public. Mr. Dowd said that he thinks that it is important for the general public to know what is going on. He would like more staffing information. He said that the biggest line is the salary portion and there is no detailed information provided in the Annual Report. He said that he would like to see it recorded by breaking it down. Mr. Dowd said that he is willing to work on this with the Treasurer to help her break it down. Mr. McColl said that if they run a report, they would have to run the same report around the same time frame. Mr. Dowd said that he would like to see this report by calendar year, but we do the budget by fiscal year. Mr. Porter said that we are locked into retirees health insurance. Mr. Marsden said that he is concerned with the detail. He said that he wants to be respectful of all the time that other committees have to put in. Mr. Dowd said that Ms. Bousquet can run the data and he would be willing to collate and return it to her. Then she and Mr. Le Beau can go through it. After that is done, Mr. Dowd will give the breakdowns and present it at Town Meeting.

ONE DAY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

MR. MCCOLL MOVED TO APPROVE THE ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR A VALENTINE'S DANCE AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH ON FEBRUARY 12, 2011, FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MCCOLL MOVED TO APPROVE THE ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR HOLLISTON YOUTH LACROSSE FOR A FUNDRAISER IN THE UPPER TOWN HALL ON MARCH 12, 2011, FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Porter said that the Board received a resignation from Elizabeth Patt on the Agricultural Commission. The Board thanked Ms. Patt for her service to the Town. Mr. Porter said that leaves a vacancy on the Commission. Please send a letter of interest to the Selectmen's Office, if you would like to be appointed.

Mr. Porter said that he was not happy with the Milford Selectmen saying that Holliston had not been in touch with them about the truck exclusion on South Street. Mr. Porter said that Mr. Le Beau sent two e-mails, with no reply back. Mr. Porter said that they would be more than happy to meet with the Milford Selectmen to discuss the South Street

truck exclusion. Mr. McColl said that they have been in touch with Milford again and they are planning on talking to them soon.

POLICE CHIEF SEARCH

Mr. Porter said the Board each made an arrangement to go to the police station and review the personnel files. Mr. Porter said that he was never going to dismiss the findings of the Search Committee. He said that they put in 184 hours of work, many months. Mr. Porter said that for anyone who was recommended for the Chief's position their personnel record would be looked at by the Selectmen. Mr. Porter said that the Search Committee was not able to look into the personnel files, only the Selectmen. Mr. McColl said that there was some confusion about the selection process this past week. This was unfortunate.

Mr. Marsden said the Selection Committee did a fantastic job. He said the Committee presented two names to be advanced into the selection process. Mr. Marsden said that he is comfortable with the Selection Committee's choice.

Mr. McColl said that he was happy that seven people applied for the position.

MR. MCCOLL MOVED TO INTERVIEW CRAIG DENMAN AND JOHN MOORE AT THE NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING ON FEBRUARY 8, 2011, FOR THE POLICE CHIEF POSITION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

AT 8:37 P.M., MR. MCCOLL MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING WITH THE POLICE UNION AND THE LEVINE LAWSUIT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN.

AYE

NAY

MR. PORTER	X
MR. MCCOLL	X
MR. MARSDEN	X

MR. PORTER SAID A PUBLIC DISCUSSION COULD COMPROMISE THE TOWN'S LITIGATING AND BARGAINING POSITION. HE SAID THAT EXECUTIVE SESSION WOULD LAST APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES AND THERE WOULD NOT BE ANY FURTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS.

AT 9:09 P.M., THE BOARD EMERGED FROM EXECUTIVE AND MR. MCCOLL MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved_____

